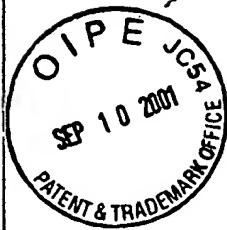


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03C0 ~~24~~

Our Docket No.: B588-022

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kenichiro Matsuura et al.  
Serial No. : 09/909,040  
For : INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM AND APPARATUS  
AND METHODS THEREFOR  
Filed : July 19, 2001  
Art Unit : Unassigned  
Examiner : Unassigned

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 1, line 26 and ending at page 2, line 3 as follows:

-- Electronic mail information is generally represented by text. However, a binary file such as application data (document file) prepared by a user can be attached to electronic mail information by a technique for encoding the binary file into text data and a technique for decoding encoded text data. --

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 3, line 10 and ending at page 3, line 27 as follows:

-- Some portable terminal mail addresses can make a user imagine that it is a portable terminal depending on its domain name. However, the portable terminal mail address belongs to a standard Internet mail address system. Some portable terminal users use as a

MARYLENE BENKINS  
Signature

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